A U S T R I A

BANK NOTES

1945 - only

Office of the President

Memorandum

Date May 16, 1945

MAY 22 1945

Subject AUSTRIA - Bank Notes

Mr. Hall telephoned and stated they were called upon to do some very rush work for Austria. Two denominations, all steel; steel impression on face and back, plus a multiple color tint. He wondered if we could handle one denomination, amounting to 8,000,000 pieces.

Mr. Hall stated that a British company had undertaken to make these notes, had started the work, but now reported they have been bombed out. I told him it did not sound right to me, that De la Rue's man had been in this country and taken back a very substantial order, and it looked more like he was trying to get out of the Austrian job.

I also told Mr. Hall that De la Rue were reported to be soliciting here and there, and I did know of a Central or South American order they had taken recently.

I suggested that they contact B.W. to see if they could help out and that if it would be any help to him I would be glad to telegraph B.W. that the Treasury Dept. was asking me to do it.

Mr. Hall said to do nothing at this time as they were having a meeting at 4 p.m. today.

I told Mr. Hall we could not begin to touch the job, even though we might ease off on the Netherlands, which we might be permitted to do. I also told him we would not be inclined to duplicate or approximately duplicate a job which was created by the British company.

ALS:az

President

See B W & Co packet
under "National Bank
of Austria"